

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9692

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

UNCLAS TEHRAN 0162

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (PERCY, CHARLES)

SUBJ: CODEL PERCY

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DEPARTURE STATEMENT ISSUED BY SENATOR PERCY TO PRESS ON JANUARY 8. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO TOM FLAHERTY, SENATOR PERCY'S OFFICE, AND AMBASSADOR ZAHEDI (WITH MESSAGE CABLED SEPTTEL).

"IN A STATEMENT RELEASED HERE UPON HIS DEPARTURE THIS MORNING, SENATOR CHARLES H. PERCY SAID HIS THREE-DAY VISIT TO IRAN HAD BEEN HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE AND DEEPLY GRATIFYING.

" I AM ESPECIALLY GRATEFUL TO HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY, TO PRINCESS
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ASHRAF, TO PRIME MINISTER HOVEYDA, TO MINISTER OF INTERIOR

AMOUZEGAR AND TO MY LONG-TIME FRIEND MINISTER OF FINANCE ANSARY,' SAID PERCY. 'THEIR WARM HOSPITALITY IS SOMETHING MRS PERCY AND I WILL NEVER FORGET. AND IN FOUR FRANK DISCUSSIONS, THEY NOT ONLY WERE EXCEEDINGLY GENEROUS WITH THEIR TIME, BUT THEY RECONFIRMED THE CONTINUING NEED FOR EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN IRAN AND THE UNITED STATES.

'IN OUR LONG PRIVATE CONVERSATION, HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY STRESSED HIS GREAT DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN THE MANY CLOSE TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. AS ONE OF THE FASTEST DEVELOPING NATIONS IN THE WORLD, IRAN IS MAKING INTELLIGENT USE OF AMERICAN KNOW-HOW AND TECHNOLOGY, AND I BELIEVE IT CAN ONLY BE TO THE BENEFIT OF AMERICAN INDUSTRY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GROWTH OF THIS REMARKABLE COUNTRY. UPEON MY RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES, I CERTAINLY INTEND TO ENCOURAGE THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO CAREFULLY EXPLORE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE IN IRAN AND THE WIDE RANGE OF JOINT VENTURES WITH IRANIAN ENTERPRISES THAT CAN MATERIALLY ASSIST MANY DEVELOPING THIRD COUNTRIES.'

"PERCY SAID THAT THE SHAHANSHAH, AS WELL AS OTHER IRANIAN LEADERS, HAD AGAIN AND AGAIN STRESSED THE NEED FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION, BOTH IN THE UNITED STATES AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD." 'AS ONE WHO HAS BEEN CALLING FOR FORCEFUL, MANDATORY CONSERVATION MEASURES IN THE US FOR MANY MONTHS,' SAID PERCY, 'I STRONGLY AGREE WITH THEM. AND I RECEIVED EVERY ASSURANCE THAT REDUCTION IN CONSUMPTION OF PETROLEUM WOULD NOT PRODUCE PRICE INCREASES. I AM PLEASED THAT THE CONSUMING NATIONS ARE PREPARING THEMSELVES FOR THE ESSENTIAL DIALOGUE ON PETROLEUM PRICES AND WORLD INFLATION WITH THE OPEC COUNTRIES.'

"PERCY SAID THAT DURING HIS VISIT, HE FREQUENTLY HAD BEEN ASKED ABOUT SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S STATEMENT THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT RULE OUT THE USE OF FORCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN A GRAVE EMERGENCY. PERCY SAID THAT HE HAD ASSURED HIS HOSTS THAT THE KISSINGER STATEMENT WAS, IN PRESIDENT FORD'S WORDS, 'A HIGHLY QUALIFIED ANSWER TO A HIGHLY HYPOTHETICAL SITUATION INVOLVING ONLY THE GRAVEST KIND OF EMERGENCY FOR THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD.' "

"ADDED THE ILLINIOS SENATOR," 'THE UNITED STATES IS INTERESTED IN COOPERATION, NOT CONFRONTATION, AND NOWHERE IN THE WORLD ARE THE

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE US AND ANOTHER NATION GREATER THAN HERE IN IRAN."

"SENATOR PERCY IS ON A 23-DAY, 12-NATION FACT-FINDING TOUR OF THE MIDDLE EAST FOR THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. TODAY HE LEAVES FOR DUBAI AND ABU DHABI. THURSDAY HE WILL BE IN MUSCAT, AND FRIDAY AND SATURDAY IN KUWAIT."

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